

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 9 are amended, and claims 17 and 18 are added. No new matter is added. Reconsideration in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicant thanks Examiner Cao for the courtesies extended to Applicant's representatives during the February 11 personal interview. The substance of the interview is incorporated herein.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) under U.S. Patent No. 5,986,669 to Kirkland in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,239,808 B1 to Kirk et al. (Kirk). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

During the interview, Applicant's representatives explained the problems that the invention solves and proposed amendments. These problems and solutions are disclosed at, for example, page 1, line 21 to page 2, line 12 and page 14, line 11 to page 15, line 6. The Examiner acknowledged the amendments and indicated that a further search will be conducted.

As discussed during the February 11 interview, claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, means which extracts at least one block subject for scissoring near a view point in a three-dimensional space and means which detects a vertex of an object formed of a polygon in the block, the vertex being out of a drawable range. This feature is described in the specification at, for example, page 16, lines 6-9 and shown in Fig. 6.

That is, only blocks (e.g., hatched blocks 350) near the view point (e.g., the car 320) are extracted for scissoring so that display failure of a polygon on a screen and or at a short distance from the view point is prevented (see page 2, lines 15-21).

Kirkland, on the other hand, as described at col. 5, lines 21-47 and shown in Fig. 3 teaches that after vertices corresponding to a graphics primitive to be manipulated are

received, a check is made to determine whether the primitive requires clipping (alleged scissoring). Then, if clipping is required, the primitive is clipped and new vertices are created corresponding to the edges of the clip region. Any vertices that are clipped and thus removed from the resulting primitive are considered to be “out” of the primitive.

In other words, Kirkland entirely clips any vertices of primitives that are out of the view angle to save processing time (see Abstract), and does not recognize blocks subject for clipping or advantages in extracting such blocks.

Kirk does not overcome the deficiency of Kirkland. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is patentably distinct from the applied prior art.

Independent claim 9 recites the features similar to those of claim 1. Accordingly, claim 9 is also patentably distinct from the applied prior art.

Dependent claims 2-8 and 10-16 are allowable at least for their dependency on allowable base claims, as well as for the additional features they recite. As such, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

New claims 17 and 18 recite means which extracts at least one block subject for clipping and that the blocks subject for clipping includes the blocks subject for scissoring. These features are described in the specification at, for example, page 15, line 26-page 16, line 6 and shown in Figs. 5 and 6. These claims are allowable at least for their dependence on allowable base claims.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-18 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Stephen P. Catlin
Registration No. 36,101

JAO:SPC/al

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OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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